

# NJ STEP CAN ELEVATE YOUR SMALL BUSINESS WITH A GRANT AWARD

Whether your small business is new to exporting or you're already selling goods and services to other countries, you may be eligible for a sub-grant award through the New Jersey State Trade and Export Promotion (STEP), administered by the New Jersey Business Action Center (BAC). Want to learn more? Answers to your key questions can be found below.

## DO I QUALIFY FOR A SUB-GRANT AWARD?

All forms, applications, certificates and information regarding NJ STEP eligibility requirements can be found at www.nj.gov/state/bac/njstep.html

#### **HOW CAN I USE THE MONEY?**

Your sub-grant award can be used to cover costs related to:

- Services provided by the U.S. Commercial Service (USCS) including Business Matchmaking, Partner Searches, Personalized Business Matchmaking (such as Gold Key Service) and In-Country Promotions for select markets
- Participation in select Trade and Business Development Missions led by senior U.S. government leaders
- Involvement in select Trade Shows offering meetings through the USCS International Buyer Program to meet with pre-screened buyers and receive export counseling at major U.S. trade shows

#### WHAT IS THE SOURCE OF THE FUNDING?

Through the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA), the NJ BAC received \$275,000 of funding for the NJ STEP Grant Program. The award will be administered through the BAC's Office of International Business Development & Protocol from October 1, 2014 – September 30, 2015. All funding was based upon proposed activities, budgets and projected export sales approved by the SBA.

### WHO CAN I CONTACT WITH ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS?

For more information on the NJ STEP Grant Program, please email William Spear, NJ STEP Program Administrator, at william.spear@sos.nj.gov

The Business Action Center provides the business community with a single point of contact, applying a proactive and customer-service approach to businesses' interactions with State government. Created within the Department of State's Business Action Center (BAC) in 2012, The Office of International Business Development and Protocol's mission is to attract foreign direct investment and assist New Jersey companies with export opportunities. It is also responsible for managing all aspects of export promotion activities, and establishing and maintaining positive working relationships with the foreign business investment community. Businesses considering a move or in need of assistance are encouraged to call New Jersey's Business Action Center at 866.534.7789 or visit the State's Business Portal at www.newjerseybusiness.gov.



